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21 June 1966

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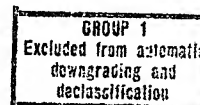
MEMORANDUM FOR:

THROUGH : Deputy Director of Security (PS)

SUBJECT : Computer Requirements

1. By memorandum dated 20 June 1966 we were asked to prepare a paper on possible future computer needs in IRD.
2. The possible future needs of IRD for computer services would include the administrative aspects, the operational aspects, and the research aspects of our work in IRD.
3. Administratively, the computer would be used in sorting through records of cases handled in the past. At the present time our headquarters records are on 3x5 cards. These contain only general data and do not permit any kind of searching on specific points. With these records on punched cards we would not only have a handy manual index but would also be able to review the entire deck rapidly. With punched cards and a related record system we would also be able to prepare the recurring statistical reports used for management, including budget, purposes.
4. Operationally, we have no concrete plans at this time for use of a computer. There are, however, two research programs underway at this time both of which could conceivably result in the use of a computer. One is on a new galvanic skin response detecting and recording system in which the galvanic skin response is fed into a computer and the results appear in digital form. The other, a major research effort, is directed at the feasibility of using a computer to determine the existence of reactions on polygraph charts as we now know them. Both of these are being studied at this time. Assuming that these are determined to be feasible, and worthwhile, the broadest use would be on an on-line real-time basis for the polygraph examiner. A lesser use would be an after-the-fact after-the-interview computer based backup for the examiner.

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5. In our research program computers are already being used, in contractors plants, to analyze the data being sent to them under the current program. At some time in the future this portion of the research effort may have to be inside the Agency.


6. Other research is underway on new physiological parameters, new sensors, and new systems which could require computer services. This, however, is mentioned only as a slight possibility at this time.

7. The question "what do you need from computers?" is answered this way:

Eventually we shall need a revised record system which will permit rapid analysis of prior cases for research, management, and counterintelligence purposes.

8. The question "what would you want if we had all the necessary resources available?" is harder to answer. Theoretically, the polygraph research program could be internal. Resources here, however, would have to include a number of additional scientists, mathematicians, and engineers who are doing the work externally.

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Chief, Interrogation Research Division

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